

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 15240 021713Z

60

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-10 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 DODE-00 EB-07

FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01

PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 /114 W

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R 021710Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5284

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 15240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMRG' EG.SY, US

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PETROLEUM COMPANY INTEREST IN SYRIA
AND EGYPT

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 3795, (B) CAIRO 9555

1. REFTTEL A REPORTED ON VISIT OF GULF VICE PRESIDENT
NORMAN LEWIS TO DISCUSS SYRIAN OIL EXPLORATION POTENTIAL
AT INVITATION OF SARG PETROLEUM MINISTRY.

2. DURING LONDON DEBRIEFING, LEWIS SAID SYRIAN GEOLOGY
UNPROMISING. BUT GULF INTENDS TO SEND
SMALL TEAM TO STUDY AVAILABLE DATA MORE CLOSELY. LEWIS
BELIEVES IT WORTHWHILE TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN GULF
CONTACT WITH SYRIANS IF ONLY TO KEEP ABREAST OF ANY NEW
DEVELOPMENTS.

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PAGE 02 LONDON 15240 021713Z

3. LEWIS CONFIRMED THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO CAIRO HE
HAD BEEN TOLD EGPC ANNOUNCEMENT OFFERING ACREAGE IN
SINAI WAS RESULT OF PREMATURE ACTION BY JUNIOR MINISTRY
OFFICIAL (REFTEL B). LEWIS ADDED BOTH EMBASSY AND
EGPC HAD ADVISED THAT FURTHER PROGRESS ON DISENGAGE-
MENT IN SINAI MUST OCCUR BEFORE OIL EXPLORATION
ACTIVITY COULD COMMENCE.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, PETROLEUM, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON15240
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750342-1056
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751088/aaaadawn.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 DAMASCUS 3795, 75 CAIRO 9555
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMERICAN PETROLEUM COMPANY INTEREST IN SYRIA AND EGYPT
TAGS: ENRG, EG, US, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006